

## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

**June 10, 2002**

**Upon Recess of BMA**

Mayor Baines called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll. There were fourteen Aldermen present.

Present: Aldermen Wihby, Gatsas, Guinta, Sysyn, Osborne, Pinard, O'Neil, Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Garrity, Smith, Thibault, Forest

Messrs.: Kevin Clougherty, Virginia Lamberton

Mayor Baines addressed item 3 of the agenda:

**3. Resolutions:**

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) from Contingency to the Management Services line of Human Resources for consulting services (0350).”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200,000) from Contingency to the Rent - Welfare line of Welfare (0869).”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to Make Certain Budgetary Closings for the Year 2002.”

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Pinard, it was voted that the Resolutions be read by titles only, and it was so done.

Alderman Forest moved that the Resolutions ought to pass and be enrolled. Alderman Thibault duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Guinta stated last week when we discussed this \$30,000 appropriation it was my understanding that I had requested something (in writing) prior to making this decision this evening and if I remember correctly, your Honor, stated that we would have something in writing.

Mr. Clougherty stated during the course of the last few days the Human Resources Director has tried to secure some items in writing from the two parties in question and she has received that but it is my understanding that she got it late today.

Ms. Lamberton stated I didn't understand.

Mr. Clougherty stated the question is being raised, Ginny, did we receive something from Harrington saying that they could do the services that Alderman Guinta was questioning and second of all did Mr. Sherry's group give you some idea as to what the number would be because we weren't sure whether the \$30,000 was the right number. We were going to get something in writing, but my understanding is that they just came back with the stuff today.

Ms. Lamberton stated that's correct. I have an e-mail from Harrington...it says... "This will confirm to you that we can replicate your current plan exactly as written for administration of benefits and if you want to make changes that will pose no problem. Harrington's Arisco Claims systems is very sophisticated, we specialize in self-insured employer plans many of which have a unique design feature. Also, this confirms that if you will send me a copy of your logo digitized file we can replicate your City of Manchester logo on your ID cards and benefit checks that would be issued for claims."

Mayor Baines called for a vote on the motion that the Resolutions ought to pass and be enrolled.

Alderman Guinta stated I would like to again raise my objections about this. I think it's premature to be voting on spending \$30,000 when we still don't have anything in our hands to review. We're in a very difficult budget process, I understand that this is for next year, but I would feel much more comfortable if we had something that we could all review even if we had Jack Sherry come before us and talk a little bit about what he intends to do for \$30,000 and if we could get something from Harrington that identifies...(1) we're going down this road... (2) something that suggests spending the \$30,000 amount on our end would be beneficial. We're in a very, very premature position right now and without having some further information I would again voice my objection and I would move to table at this time until we can further obtain some written documentation.

Alderman Shea stated by way of spending taxpayers money, Kevin, doesn't the person in charge through HR come before committee and ask for a certain appropriation in terms of how much they want to spend. Normally, that's what

happens. In other words, they don't necessarily take the \$30,000 and plug it in and spend, they come and say we want to use \$3,000 or \$5,000 for this kind of service or \$10,000 for that, is that correct, is that a correct assumption?

Mr. Clougherty replied that is essentially correct, Alderman. The Human Resources Department has a budget, this is an issue that came up later in the process as part of the budget process, she didn't have sufficient funds in her budget to get through the year and provide this additional service and asked for an additional appropriation.

Mayor Baines called for a vote on the motion that the Resolutions ought to pass and be enrolled.

Alderman Guinta asked what did we just vote on.

Mayor Baines replied the three Resolutions.

Alderman Guinta stated I made a motion to table.

Mayor Baines replied I didn't accept the motion to table and there wasn't a second.

The motion carried with Aldermen Gatsas and Guinta duly recorded in opposition to the first Resolution listed.

Mayor Baines addressed item 4 of the agenda:

4. Communication from the Director of Planning requesting CIP project extensions until December 31, 2002, as enclosed herein.

Deputy Clerk Johnson noted substitute listing of project extensions had been distributed to Board members.

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to approve the CIP project extensions as outlined in the substitute listing.

There being no further business to come before the Committee on Finance, on motion of Alderman Thibault, duly seconded by Alderman Forest, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee